

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

CHAMBERS OF
LISA P. THORNTON
Assignment Judge



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Monmouth Vicinage 2016 Law Day Celebration Miranda: More Than Words

The Monmouth Vicinage and the Monmouth Bar Association will conduct their annual Law Day ceremony on Monday, May 2. This year, Law Day honors the 50th Anniversary of *Miranda v. Arizona*, the landmark U.S. Supreme Court case which led to the reading of Miranda rights by law enforcement prior to the interrogation of a suspect in custody.

The day's activities begin at 10 a.m. in courtroom 307 in the west wing of the courthouse at 71 Monument Park, Freehold.

Barry Serebnick, Esq., a member of the Vicinage Advisory Committee on Minority Concerns, will give a presentation to local high school students on this year's Law Day theme, "Miranda: More Than Words." The presentation will be followed by a roundtable discussion for students about the continued significance of Miranda in today's society. Topics to be addressed will include the continuing necessity of Miranda warnings; the ramifications of the exclusionary rule and alternatives to protect constitutional rights; and the effects of technology on Fifth Amendment rights.

The roundtable discussion will be moderated by Assignment Judge Lisa P. Thornton. Panelists will include Hester Agudosi, Esq., the deputy director of the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity in the Office of the Attorney General; Thomas Huth, Esq., senior litigation counsel in the Monmouth County prosecutor's office; Patrice Bearden, Esq., deputy assistant in the Monmouth County public defender's office, and Steven E. Nelson, Esq.

At 4 p.m., the celebration continues in the General Equity Courtroom, Hall of Records, Main and Court Streets, Freehold Borough. The afternoon program will include speakers Judge Thornton, Criminal Division Presiding Judge Anthony J. Mellaci, Jr., and Monmouth Bar Association President Ronald T. Catelli. A musical selection will be performed by court employee Tarika Jean-Pierre.

The Daniel J. O'Hern Mock Trial Award will be presented to Middletown High School North for winning this year's Monmouth County High School Mock Trial Competition. The Monmouth Bar Association Abraham J. Zager Professionalism Award will be presented to attorney John P. Duggan.

Judge Thornton will present plaques to the winners of the Law Day 2016 Essay and Art Contest. The winners, both from Freehold Township High School, are essay contest winner Eden Breslauer-Friedman and art contest winner Trinity Pelina.

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In addition to the formal activities at the Law Day ceremony, minority concerns committee members, judges and court staff will be giving presentations on Miranda v. Arizona throughout the calendar year in order to engage high school students in an understanding and appreciation of their rights and how the courts act to protect those rights.

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Reporters and photographers are invited.